



Biography

CHAIRMAN JONODEV OSCEOLA CHAUDHURI



Jonodev Osceola Chaudhuri (Muscogee (Creek)) was sworn in as Chairman of NIGC by Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell on May 13, 2015. Chairman Chaudhuri brings to the NIGC extensive policy, legal, and judicial experience and a lifelong commitment to serving the Native American community. His varied experiences each stem from his understanding of the connection between the development of strong governmental institutions and Native American self-determination.

Prior to his designation as Acting Chairman by President Obama in October 2013, he served as Associate Commissioner and Vice Chair. Chairman Chaudhuri was initially appointed to the Commission by the Secretary of Interior in September of 2013. Prior to joining the NIGC, Chairman Chaudhuri was Senior Counselor to the Department of the Interior's Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, where he provided guidance and assistance on a wide range of national policy issues, including Indian gaming, economic development, energy, Alaska affairs, and tribal recognition.

He has practiced law for over a decade, primarily in private practice serving tribes and tribal entities. Additionally, Chairman Chaudhuri has served as a judge on five different tribal courts, including serving his tribe as Chief Justice of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court. Chairman Chaudhuri's professional background also includes work as a community organizer, adjunct professor, and author.

Chairman Chaudhuri graduated with a bachelor's of arts degree from Dartmouth College, N.H. and a J.D. from Cornell Law School, N.Y.

The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act created the National Indian Gaming Commission to support tribal self-sufficiency and the integrity of Indian gaming. The NIGC has developed four initiatives to support its mission including (1) To protect against anything that amounts to gamesmanship on the backs of tribes; (2) To stay ahead of the Technology Curve; (3) Rural outreach; and (4) To maintain a strong workforce within NIGC and with its tribal regulatory partners. NIGC oversees the efficient regulation of 497 gaming establishments operated by 244 tribes across 29 states. The Commission's dedication to compliance with the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act ensures the integrity of the growing \$29.9 billion Indian gaming industry. To learn more, visit www.nigc.gov and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).